

An Act empowering certain Commissioners therein mentioned, to lay out and let a Price, or cause a Price to be set, on two Acres of Land in *St. Margaret's Westminster* Parish, in *Anne-Arundel* County, whereon the Chapel of Ease belonging to the said Parish now stands.

Preamble.

WHEREAS the Rector, Vestrymen, and Church-Wardens of *St. Margaret's Westminster* Parish, in *Anne-Arundel* County, have, by their humble Petition to this present General Assembly, let forth, That the Chapel erected at the upper End of the said Parish hath for some Years been out of Repair, and that the Vestrymen have forborn to repair the same, by Reason that the Land whereon it stands hath not been purchased for that Use, the Owner thereof refusing to sell any Part less than the whole Tract, which contains One Hundred Acres; by which Means, unless remedied by the Legislature of this Province, the Inhabitants at the upper End of said Parish will be destitute of a Place of Public Worship: For removing of which Inconvenience, it is humbly prayed that it may be Enacted;

Commissioners appointed to purchase 2 Acres of Land where the Chapel stands.

And be it Enacted by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary, by and with the Advice and Consent of his Lordship's Governor, and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, and the Authority of the same, That Colonel *Charles Hammond*, Capt. *John Meriken*, Mr. *Lawrence Hammond*, Mr. *John Howard*, Dr. *James Walker*, and *Vachel Denton*, Esq; be, and are hereby appointed Commissioners, and as such are by Virtue of this Act authorized and empowered to treat and agree with the Proprietor or Proprietors of the Tract of Land on which the Chapel of Ease in *St. Margaret's Westminster* Parish now stands, for the Purchase of two Acres of Land, part of the said Tract, and to cause the same two Acres to be surveyed, butted, and bounded in such Manner as to them shall seem meet, by the Surveyor of *Anne-Arundel* County, or such other Person skilful in Surveying, as the said Commissioners or the major Part of them shall think fit to choose, so as the Chapel now standing on the said Land be included within the Bounds of the said two Acres: And in Case it shall so happen that the Proprietor or Proprietors of the Land aforesaid, upon having timely Notice given him, her, or them, of the Time and Place of the Meeting of the Commissioners aforesaid, to treat and agree with him, her, or them, to the Purposes aforesaid, shall refuse or neglect to appear, or upon appearing, shall not treat and agree with the Commissioners aforesaid, or the major Part of them, for the Sale and Purchase of two Acres of Land, to the Uses and Purposes aforesaid, then it shall and may be lawful to and for the Commissioners aforesaid, or the major Part of them, to issue a Warrant under their Hands and Seals, directed to the Sheriff of *Anne-Arundel* County for the time being, commanding him to summon and impanel a Jury of twelve good and lawful Men, Freeholders of his Bailiwick, to be and appear at a certain Time and Place, in such Warrant to be mentioned; which Warrant the said Sheriff is hereby required and obliged to execute; and such Jury so impanelled, being by the said Commissioners charged and sworn, shall, upon their Oath, enquire, assess, and retain what Damages or Recompence they shall think fit to be paid and given to such Proprietor or Proprietors for the two Acres of Land aforesaid, and whatever Sum or Sums of Money the Jury shall so assess and award, shall be, and is hereby declared to be the Value and Price to be paid to such Proprietor or Proprietors interested in the two Acres of Land so to be surveyed, butted, and bounded as aforesaid.

Such Land to be valued by

In case the Owner refuse the Price set by the Jury.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That in Case the Proprietor or Proprietors of the Land aforesaid, shall upon tender being made to him, her, or them, by the Commissioners aforesaid, or the major Part of them, of the Money so assessed by the Jury, refuse to receive the same, or upon such receiving, shall refuse to execute a Deed for the Conveying of the said two Acres of Land to the Vestrymen and Church-wardens of the Parish aforesaid, for the Time being, and their Successors, to the Use of the said Parish forever, such Refusal being certified by the Commissioners aforesaid, or the major Part of them, to the Justices of *Anne-Arundel* County Court, and there recorded, shall be, and is hereby declared, to vest the said Vestrymen and Church-wardens, and their Successors, with